(c) whether any enquiry has been made and responsibility fixed in security lapses involved in the matter; and

(d) whether any culprits have been apprehended and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking authorities got a case registered at Police Station Kotwali on 14th November, 1986 that some fittings were found missing from the moat at the Red Fort.

One Mohd. Babul of Jama Masjid Area was arrested and 11 electric fittings were recovered.

Deforestation caused by Viscose fibre production

3212. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of trees cut/ tonnes of forest wood required for each tonne of viscose fibre produced during the last Five Years Plan period and in each of the last three years and also the number of replacement-trees grown in the same periods;

(b) whether the forests are depleting due to viscose fibre production requirements; if so, the steps being taken to stop in time, the depletion of forests specially while permitting expansion of production capacity or giving new licenses for production; and

(c) whether it would be made compulsory for all such, expansions or new licence giving programmes which use forest produces in their production to obtain prior clearance forma Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) About 3.85 tonnes of wood is required to manufacture one tonne of viscose fibre. Statistics relating to the number of trees cut only for viscose production and the number of replacement trees grown are not maintained.

(b) and (c) Depletion of forest is caused by various biotic pressures. Clearance of the Central Government is necesary for substantial expansion or a new unit and availability of raw material is always taken into account while such an approval is given.

Request by the Punjab Government leniency towards army deserters

3213. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of army deserters being prosecuted for thier involvement in incidents of revolt in the army during the Operation Blue Star in Punjab;

(b) whether Punjab Government has demanded amensty for those army deserters;

(c) if so, on what grounds and Government's reaction in this regard; and

(d) whether it is a fact that release of detenus on the recommendations of Justice Bains Commission has resulted in increases in terrorist activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) to (d) Consequent to Operation Blue Star, an insignificant proportion Sikh troops serving in serveral units located throughout the country, committed mutiny, desertion and other offences including murder. The number involved against whom action was initiated is 2337, all belonging to other Ranks No Officers or JCO deserted. An overwhelmingly large number demonstrated the loyalty and patriotism that have always been displayed by Sikh troops.

In addition, 393 personnel consisting of 65 Officers, 104 JCOs and 224 Other Ranks were proceeded against for other acts of indiscipline such as failure of cammand, dereliction of duty etc.

Thus, a total of 2,730 personnel were tried by Court Martial or sumamarily or administratively dealt with in accordance with the gravity of offences. Proceedings have completed in 2,726 cases of whom 2292 persons have been retained in service after minor punishments or exoneration and after considering petitions against dismissal or discharge. 434 persons not retained in service include 276 persons undergoing rigorous imprisonment in civil jails with dismissal and 158 persons not retained due to lack of allegiance or being unwilling to serve or being not found suitable medically.

The Government of Punjab had requested that in the case of persons serving sentences in military or civil prisons the dismissal orders may be set aside and they should be reinstated on completion of their sentences. All cases of persons involved including their petitions against dismissal, have been considered with fairness and due leniency, giving full consideration to the emotional and psychological factors associated with these incidents and the bulk of the persons have been reinstated in service. Considering the serious nature of the offences committed an amnesty to all persons involved cannot be considered.

The Justice Bains Commission was not concerned with cases of these Army personnel. As far as the other cases examined by that Commission are concerned, according to the Government of Punjab no direct connection has been established between the release of detenues and the increased in terrorist activities.

Reports of Mathew and Venkatramaiah Commission

3214. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the findings and recommendations of the reports of the Mathew Commission and Venkatramaiah Commission about the inter-state boundary issue between Punjab and Haryana; and

(b) whether Government propose to place these reports on the Table of the House and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In its report submitted on 25.1.86 the Mathew Commission, after indentifying the Hindi-speaking villages and towns in the Fazilka-Abohar areas, has not recommended their transfer to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh on account of the criterion of contiguity not being satisfied. The Commission has